

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

HONORING THE LIFE AND SERVICE OF CAPTAIN JAMES H. PATTON, JR.

HON. JOE COURTNEY

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 21, 2022

Mr. COURTNEY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of United States Naval Captain James H. Patton, Jr. Captain Patton passed away last year on September 27, 2021, at his home in North Stonington, Connecticut. I have had the distinct pleasure of connecting with Captain Patton over the years and can personally attest to his distinguished character, major contributions to policy conversations on our nation's submarine force, and participation and care for his local community.

Born on January 6, 1939, to James H. Sr. and Suzanne Patton in Norwood, Massachusetts, James had the spirit of a New Englander through and through. Due to his shrewd and strong character, it was no surprise that James went on to attend the U.S. Naval Academy, where he graduated in 1960. Upon graduation, James immediately set sail on his military career, dedicating the next 25 years of his life toward faithful leadership within our nation's Navy. It was during these years that he became an incredible bank of knowledge with respect to our nation's submarine force, serving on five nuclear-powered attack submarines, two ballistic-missile submarines, and commanding the USS *Pargo*. By the time of his retirement from the Navy, his merited service had earned him the rank of Captain as well as several accolades, including the Legion of Merit and the National Defense Service Medal.

Captain Patton's dedication to the strength of our nation's Navy was never intended to end with his retirement from the military. Upon his departure in 1985, our region became lucky enough for Captain Patton to discover North Stonington as a place to call his permanent home. As a newfound resident, Captain Patton would go on to leverage his extensive experience with the Navy and found his own advocacy firm, Submarine Tactics & Technology, Inc. It was through this medium and his several published materials that Captain Patton championed advancing the narrative on investing in our "Silent Service," directly contributing to our region's existence as a manufacturing powerhouse as well as the position of naval strength which we continue to benefit from to this day.

As a resident of North Stonington, Captain Patton made sure his outgoing personality also enriched his local community. For instance, he was not only a member of but a valuable contributor to the Naval Submarine League, North Stonington Lions Club and the Education Foundation. Truly, it was always in his nature to lend a helping hand.

Madam Speaker, as the representative of eastern Connecticut, I cannot think of a citizen

more outstanding than Captain James H. Patton, Jr. The quarter of a century dedicated to serving our nation is commendable by itself, but James continued to demonstrate exceptional civic duty even upon his initial retirement. Our entire southeastern Connecticut community continues to mourn his loss to this day. I find gratitude in the fact that his surviving family has stood strong in bearing the standard of his memory, namely, his wife Mary Patton, three children Terry Rhoads, John Patton and James Patton III, sister Mary Cobbett, and numerous grandchildren, nieces and nephews. In particular, I have had the opportunity to get to know James III, who has followed the example of his fathers informed idealism to serve overseas to promote peaceful sustainable international development all over the globe. The invaluable contributions of Captain Patton's life and legacy will continue to impact our nation's security and his local community for generations to come. To these ends, I ask that my colleagues in the House join me in honoring Captain James Patton, Jr.'s incredible life of service.

INTRODUCTION OF THE BREASTFEEDING MOTHERS JURY DUTY EXCLUSION ACT OF 2022

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 21, 2022

Ms. NORTON. Madam Speaker, I rise today to introduce the Breastfeeding Mothers Jury Duty Exclusion Act of 2022, which would allow breastfeeding mothers summoned for jury service in federal court or in the Superior Court of the District of Columbia to be excused from service for the period they are breastfeeding upon the individual's request. The benefits of breastfeeding are well-documented, and breastfeeding mothers should not be deterred from breastfeeding by jury service.

The District of Columbia Home Rule Act prohibits the D.C. Council from enacting any law relating to title 11 of the D.C. Code. Title 11 governs jury service. Therefore, this bill is necessary to provide this exclusion for both the federal and D.C. courts.

I urge my colleagues to support this bill.

REMEMBERING DR. JOEL B. WOOD

HON. TIM RYAN

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 21, 2022

Mr. RYAN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Dr. Joel B. Wood, who passed away on Thursday, March 31, 2022, at the age of 51.

Joel was born on July 19, 1970, in Wellsboro, PA, a son of the late Sonny and Twilla Wood.

He was a graduate of CV High School in Westfield, PA, and continued his education at Edinboro University receiving his BA in Business and English, and his MA in Counseling Psychology. He worked at Northshore Psychological Associates of Erie, PA where he was a Clinical Psychologist and a loyal advocate for his patients.

Outside of work, he was a history buff, especially for Presidential history. He loved visiting historical sites, museums, cemeteries, presidential gravesites, and maintaining the Packard family graves in Warren, OH. He was an avid flower gardener, a voracious reader, enjoyed listening to music, and had a great love for animals, especially cats.

Joel will be deeply missed by his partner, Charles Ohlin; brothers, Kenneth Lampman II and Dan (Lori) Wood; nieces and nephews, Summer (Jeff) Hunter, who he adored and mentored, Shane (Sarah) Lampman, Danielle (Aaron) Marsh, Morgan and Kyle Mills, and Olivia and Makenzie Lampman; many great-nieces and nephews; and his cats Josie and Simon.

INTRODUCTION OF THE KIMBERLY VAUGHAN FIREARM SAFE STORAGE ACT

HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 21, 2022

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Madam Speaker, I am pleased to introduce the Kimberly Vaughan Firearm Safe Storage Act. This legislation takes important steps to keep our children and our communities safe from unsecured firearms.

On May 18, 2018, Kimberly Vaughan was among eight students and two teachers who were shot and killed at Santa Fe High School in Texas. Thirteen others were wounded. The shooter was a 17-year-old who brought a shotgun and a .38 caliber pistol from his home to commit this heinous crime. Neither weapon was stored securely and placed the lives of all these students in jeopardy.

Sadly, school shootings like the one that occurred in Santa Fe have become horrifyingly familiar. In 80 percent of school shootings involving a shooter under 18 years old, the gun was taken from the home of family or friends. Some of these shootings may have been prevented if the weapons were securely stored and made inaccessible to minors. Unsecured firearms also increase the risk of unintentional shootings and suicide.

On average, eight children are killed every day by improperly stored or misused guns. The American Academy of Pediatrics recommends that if parents keep firearms in their home, all firearms should be locked, unloaded, and stored separately from ammunition. However, only 3 of 10 adults in households with children report storing all guns unloaded and locked up. It is estimated that 4.6 million

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American children live in a home with at least one unlocked, loaded firearm.

The Kimberly Vaughan Firearm Safe Storage Act encourages responsible firearm storage to make our communities safer. This legislation would require the Department of Justice to establish and publish voluntary best practices for safe firearm storage. It requires a label or notice on most firearms at purchase that says, "Safe Storage Saves Lives" and includes the website where the Department of Justice's best practices can be found. It also requires Federal Firearms Licensees (FFLs) to have compatible safe storage devices available for purchase for every handgun, rifle, or shotgun that they sell. The bill authorizes \$10 million in grants every year for 10 years to state, local, and tribal governments to distribute safe firearm storage devices. Finally, this legislation incorporates the Prevent Family Fire Act, authored by Congressman MIKE LEVIN, which establishes a 10 percent tax credit to FFLs for safe storage devices sold for up to \$400 to encourage the sale of these devices.

I ask my colleagues to join me in keeping our children safe from unsecured firearms by supporting this important legislation.

CONGRATULATING ELDON HIGH SCHOOL VOLLEYBALL TEAMS 1980 TO 1996 INDUCTION INTO MSHOF

HON. BLAINE LUETKEMEYER

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 21, 2022

Mr. LUETKEMEYER. Madam Speaker, today I rise to recognize Missouri's Third District Eldon High School Volleyball teams from 1980 to 1996 in my home district for being inducted into the Missouri Sports Hall of Fame. This accomplishment is not one to be taken lightly and reflects the Eldon community dedication to youth athletics and the sport of volleyball.

Their induction into the Missouri Sports Hall of Fame is a testament to the impact Eldon High School Volleyball has made on high school sports in Missouri. One of the best eras in Missouri high school sports history running from 1980 to 1996 with an astounding 14 district titles in this span of time and eight straight final four berths also winning the Class 3 state title in 1991. Eleven different players received AllState recognition and Coach Ann Gulshen has been inducted into the Missouri Sports Hall of Famer.

You likely will not find a team more deserving of this tremendous achievement. The impact it has made on high school sports in Missouri cannot go unnoticed.

Madam Speaker please join me in congratulating Eldon High School's Volleyball teams from 1980 to 1996 for being inducted into the Missouri Sports Hall of Fame.

IN HONOR OF THE RETIREMENT OF GRAHAM MEDIA GROUP PRESIDENT AND CEO EMILY BARR

HON. DEBBIE DINGELL

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 21, 2022

Mrs. DINGELL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize President and Chief Executive Officer Emily L. Barr on the occasion of her retirement from Graham Media Group after a decade of stellar work. Her service to our community is worthy of commendation.

A native of Massachusetts, Mrs. Barr's career has been nothing short of exemplary. She began her career in broadcasting in 1980 as a news editor in St. Paul, Minnesota, before working as a writer and producer at a station in Washington, D.C. Until 1988, Mrs. Barr served as the Director of Creative Services and Advertising and Promotion Manager at KHOU-TV in Houston, Texas. In 1988, she became the Director of Broadcast Operations and Programming at WMAR-TV in Baltimore, Maryland. Later, she led the ABC-owned station in Raleigh-Durham, North Carolina as the President and General Manager before she became President and General Manager of ABC 7 Chicago. In 2012, Mrs. Barr joined Graham Media Group, which includes WDIV Detroit, as the President and Chief Executive Officer. Her work propelled Graham Media Group to evolve from a broadcast-based model to seven local media hubs. She led the acquisition of top social media software, and developed Graham Digital, a digital media and technology development group in Detroit. Her fierce dedication to her work has transformed Graham Media Group to represent nearly 7 percent of coverage in the United States.

As a leader in our community, Mrs. Barr's work did not end in the broadcasting space. She has been a leader for women wherever she has been and has supported civic causes throughout her career. At home, she led city-wide efforts to raise funds for the Haitian earthquake relief effort and serves on the Board of Trustees at her alma mater, Carleton College in Minnesota. Mrs. Barr is also the recipient of numerous awards and honors, including the Broadcaster of the Year Award, the Vincent T. Wasilewski Broadcaster of the Year Award, the Distinguished Alumni Achievement Award, the Golden Mike Award, and holds an Honorary Doctorate from Robert Morris University. Amongst this, she has been inducted into the Silver Circle of the Chicago/Midwest Chapter of the National Academy of Television Arts and Sciences and will be elected to the Broadcasting & Cable Hall of Fame this Spring. Mrs. Barr currently resides with her husband Scott and two daughters in Chicago.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Mrs. Emily Barr for her outstanding career. She has led with compassion and integrity, ensuring the success of Graham Media Group and has been an innovative leader in media for over two decades and who truly cares about the Midwest. I join with Mrs. Barr's family, friends, and colleagues in extending my best wishes to her in retirement.

HONORING THE WILTON VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT ON THE 75TH ANNIVERSARY OF ITS FOUNDING

HON. ELISE M. STEFANIK

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 21, 2022

Ms. STEFANIK. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor and celebrate the Wilton Volunteer Fire Department on the 75th anniversary of its founding. This fire department has shown tremendous dedication to protecting and serving the town of Wilton as well as the surrounding municipalities in Saratoga County.

The Wilton Volunteer Fire Department held their first unofficial meeting, comprised of twenty members, on September 17, 1947. The Wilton Town Board then approved a committee of six commissioners, who held their first charter meeting on October 1, 1947. Despite limited funding and resources, Wilton's first group of volunteers overcame these obstacles and soon raised enough funds to purchase their first truck, a 1944 United States Navy vehicle that had been in service in WWII and became known as "713."

In the years that followed, the Department grew and evolved within the community but never lost touch with their history. Today, Truck 713 is still proudly displayed at the main station, though it has been retired from active service. The Department has now expanded its fleet to include a variety of modern vehicles capable of responding to any emergency.

The Department now employs an extremely diverse group of members. Still relying exclusively on volunteers, members range in age from teenage recruits to veteran members, some of whom have been on the job since nearly the beginning. William E. Morgan is the longest serving member in the Department's history with sixty-seven years of firefighting in Wilton under his belt. Mr. Morgan, along with the rest of the Wilton volunteer firefighters, serve their community exceptionally. On behalf of New York's 21st Congressional District, I am honored to recognize and thank the Wilton Volunteer Fire Department on their 75th anniversary.

HONORING THE LIFE AND SERVICE OF CSM (RET.) IOAKIMO "NIKO" FALANIKO

HON. AUMUA AMATA COLEMAN RADEWAGEN

OF AMERICAN SAMOA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 21, 2022

Mrs. RADEWAGEN. Madam Speaker, I rise to remember the life and service of Command Sergeant Major (Retired) Ioakimo Falaniko from my home district of American Samoa. CSM Falaniko passed away Wednesday, October 20, 2021, at the age of 67.

CSM Falaniko served his country as a combat engineer for over 30 years, entering the Army in 1976 and retiring in December of 2008.

His assignments included: Fort Belvoir, Virginia; Fort Leonard Wood, Missouri; Fort Bragg, North Carolina; Fort Bliss, Texas; and Fort Lewis, Washington; as well as several tours in Germany, Korea, and Iraq.